

PETERMANN AND STANLEY.

The Celebrated Geographer's Opinion of the Herald Explorer's Work.

Problems Solved—Further Discoveries Probable.

The Lake System of Central Africa and the Great Rivers.

COURSE OF THE CONGO.

Dr. Petermann's Tribute to the American Explorer.

Sacrifices Made, But Grand Geographical Achievements.

REDACTION DER MITTELSTADT ANS
JOSTUS PETERS GROSSKAPITAN
GOTHA, March 22, 1877.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:

The last letters of Mr. Stanley, up to the 13th of August, 1876, show that this most determined and persevering explorer pursues his present great undertaking with his wonted energy. Having left the coast of East Africa in November, 1874, he forced his way to Ukerewe (Victoria Nyanza) through previously untraveled regions, circumnavigated this great basin in March, April and May, 1875, and fully decided the problem attached to this lake in favor of its first discoverer, Speke, who had firmly maintained the unity of the various shores explored by him against Burton, who had attempted to cut it up in little bits, thus solving one of the great African questions.

From Ukerewe Stanley made his way across the high mountain region between it and the Mutwa (Albert Nyanza), adding everywhere to our previous knowledge, and finally reaching Lake Tanganyika at Ujiji. When he wrote his last letters he had also completely circumnavigated this great lake and finished what Speke, Burton, Livingstone and Cameron had left undone.

By these, his new surveys and explorations, Stanley has decided another great African problem, having beyond any further doubt established the fact that Lake Tanganyika is in no connection with the Mutwa (Albert Nyanza), and, consequently, not with the Nile. A third great problem, the outflow of the Tanganyika into the Lualaba basin, has also been further investigated by Stanley, and the result of his investigation is that the Lukaga is not, as Cameron thought, a permanent, but at the most only a periodical or occasional outflow of the Tanganyika Lake. Thus, in the short space of only one year and three-quarters, Stanley has solved several great African problems and added immensely to our geographical knowledge of this continent.

To Stanley's further proceedings since 13th August, 1876, I look with still greater expectations, and from his plan there seems no doubt that he will outdo everything he has yet achieved, and make the greatest discovery remaining in Africa. This discovery is the solution of the question, What becomes of the great lake and river systems discovered by Livingstone in Central Africa? Do they drain into the Congo or not? Is the Lualaba the Congo, the Nile, or what other river? Cameron, by turning from Nyangwe to the south and afterward west to Benguela, has, as Stanley just remarks, "left the question of the Lualaba exactly where Livingstone left it."

Now, Stanley's plan is directed to the north and west from Nyangwe, and in either direction he will not fail to make the greatest discoveries yet remaining in Africa. What lay before him in August, 1876, is infinitely more important than all he had done up to that time.

A. PETERMANN.

DR. PETERMANN'S DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRESS OF AFRICAN EXPLORATION—NEW CIVILIZATIONS UNRAVELLING OLD PROBLEMS.

[From the Cologne Gazette.]

GOTHA, March 28, 1877.

Africa at the present moment is the object of great scientific efforts and projects. Previously there were simply expeditions for geographical discovery with an endeavor to unravel hidden mysteries; a few commercial houses tried to develop its wealth; one or two civilized governments interested themselves in its welfare, but now this most stubborn part of the globe is being attacked by the promoters of a higher civilization, and for all these Mr. Stanley's explorations have become matters of absorbing interest. When one thinks that from the time of the Egyptian monks probably eight thousand years have passed away since discoveries were made in Africa, while North, Central and South America are scarcely four hundred years old, and that it is within the term of forty years that the Australian continent has developed to its present grandeur, it is evidently time that something was done for the benighted portions of the earth.

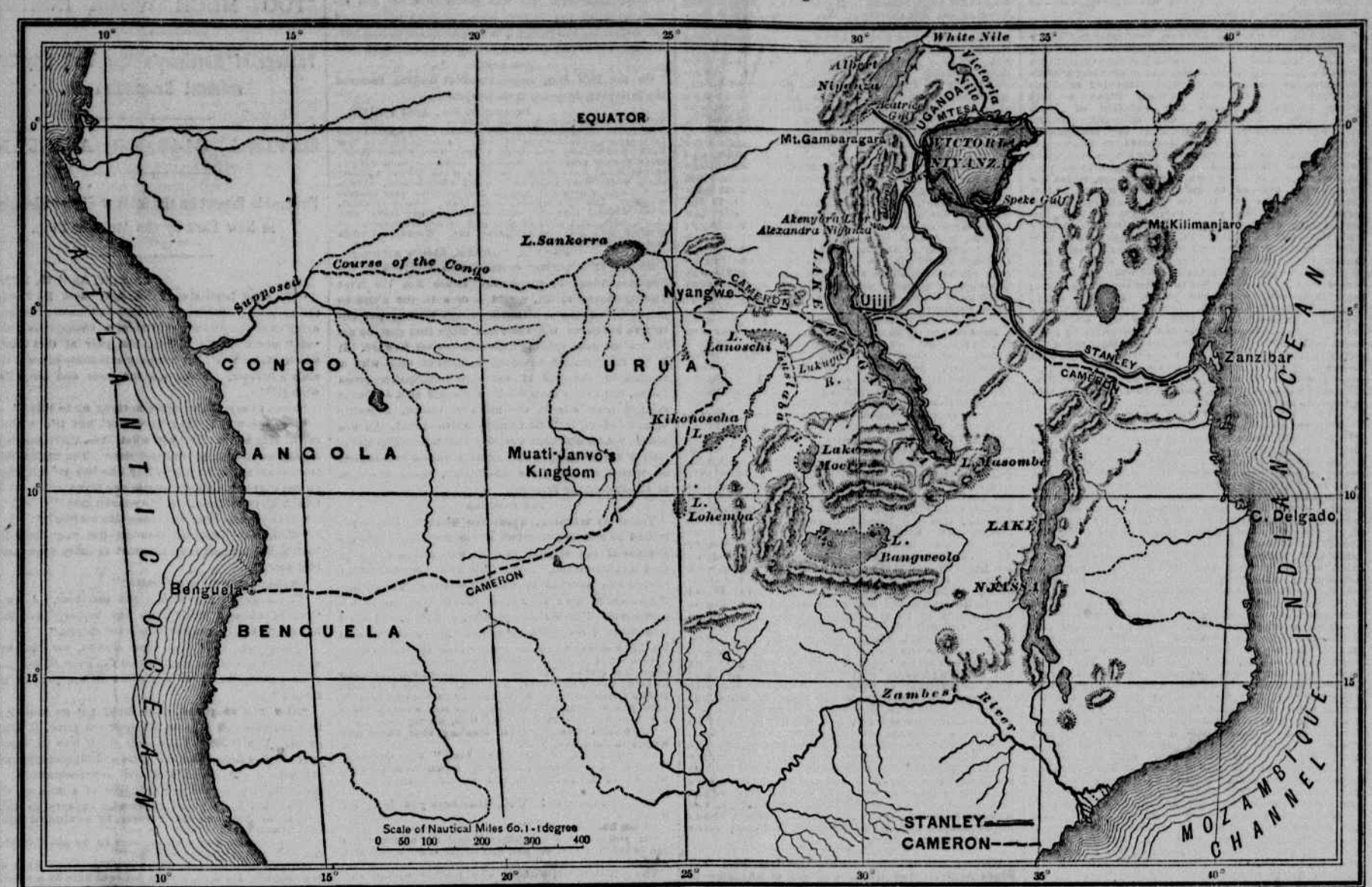
Still of late geographical discovery has proceeded in Africa with gigantic strides. It took 1,800 years to emancipate mankind from the theories of the Egyptian geographers, Claudius Ptolemaus, with reference to the basin and sources of the Nile, and it is only eighty years since modern and thirty since its scientific exploration was begun. In these thirty years a great deal has been done, although much more remains. Indeed geographical research there is still in its infancy, yet it is constantly extending its scope. Where does the Lualaba flow from? Whence comes the river Congo? Where does the Nile run to? Where does the Ogowe take its rise? The sources of the Nile, which Ptolemy pretended to have known 150 years, A. C., were really discovered by the press of our day—by the American newspaper reporter Stanley, in the Alexandria stream and lake.

THE WORK OF THE JOURNALIST.

We have before us now the latest letters and maps sent home by Stanley. Our great journals should furnish us with the events of the day almost as soon as they transpire, from the field of battle to the festive following gigantic victories, reporting with precision and accuracy, no longer a novelty; but that the proprietor of an American newspaper—the New York Herald—should send a correspondent at his own expense to do what Menes, Ptolemy, Mungo Park, Henry Barth and Livingstone, and Cameron and Poggendorff, even what our united geographical societies, governments, Chambers of Commerce and industry have failed to accomplish, is something novel, not only novel, but serviceable and honorable.

For a long time nothing was heard from Livingstone. It was said he was lost. No one could tell what his end had been. His life and death became matters of general conversation. Nothing was heard from England however, where the most interest would naturally be expected, nothing from his numerous friends, and nothing was done among them, even though some of them were millionaires. But finally the proprietor of the Herald said to his man, "Go and find Livingstone," and he did find him. This enterprise on the part of the Herald was crowned with the most complete success, and Stanley proved himself by all means to be the most accomplished man that had ever undertaken so difficult a mission, and which he brought to a brilliant issue in 1876. Having thus proved his claim as one of the most wonderful African explorers, he next received the greatest geographical recognition in the

Map Showing Stanley's Routes and Explorations as Defined by Dr. Petermann—The Transcontinental March by Cameron.



world, the presentation of the gold medal of the London Geographical Society, and subsequently the medals and honors of other scientific bodies—one for his display of astronomical knowledge. He was soon entrusted by James Gordon Bennett with a new undertaking, as the leader of a substantial scientific expedition to Central Africa to navigate, explore and describe the great lake sources, on which depends the solution of several important geographical problems. This time the London Daily Telegraph agrees to pay half the expenses.

Stanley selected Bagamoyo, opposite Zanzibar, as a starting point, at which place he had previously collected his forces under Lumsden, in October. On this occasion he was accompanied by four young Englishmen and upward of 300 soldiers and porters, and took a large portable boat (which could be taken to pieces and put together at pleasure), the Lady Alice, for the complete exploration of the inner African lakes.

His first attempt was on the Ukerewe, or Lake Victoria Nyanza, which was discovered by Speke, July 30, 1858, but hitherto had not been fully explored, only one shore having been traversed, leaving its circumference undecided, and which Burton's enemies and influence for a long time tended to maintain was not one great lake, but a number of small lagoons, running from one to the other. Stanley followed almost a direct route as Speke, and after most difficult march of 103 days, and traversing 720 miles over highlands from 2,500 feet to 5,100 feet above the level of the sea which had never before been trodden, he reached the lake. His vessel was successfully transported through an almost impenetrable forest thicket. This march, with such an enormous quantity of baggage, a huge pack, goods for trade and the fittings of the ship, was of itself a great achievement.

Immediately after his arrival on the shores of the great lake Stanley began his preparations for a thorough circuit. He left his expedition in camp on the shore, put his vessel together, and on March 8, 1875, launched forth upon the waters of the lake, exploring first the eastern, then respectively the northern, western and southern shores, traversing a distance of 1,000 miles. On May 5, 1875, he was back at his camp. This navigation of the Ukerewe Lake in fifty-eight days, battling bravely against all dangers and difficulties, was, indeed, a brilliant and glorious achievement. By this journey Stanley procured the first great results of his mission in settling some important African disputes, demonstrating clearly that the body which Speke had discovered was really one grand lake, and dispelling the error of Burton and his supporters. Even as late as the year 1874, Colonel Long, who was in the Egyptian service, had been to the northern part of Ukerewe, and thought he had reduced it to a very insignificant body of water. According to Stanley's actual measurements, however, it is one of the largest of the lakes, being more than fifteen hundred square miles (German) in extent, considerably larger than the whole of Bavaria, and situated 5,500 feet above the sea level.

EXPLORING THE GREAT DIVIDE.

From Ukerewe Stanley went, in January, 1876, to the highlands of Uanda, escorted by some 2,000 spearmen, passing among mountains 15,000 feet high to the second great lake source of the Nile, to the Mutwa or Albert Nyanza, and his whole march there is rich with geographical knowledge. The difficulties he encountered and the opposition of the blacks living in the country were so overwhelming that he had to give up his idea of navigating the lake from there, and turned his steps southward to the third great lake, Tanganyika, 2,710 feet above the sea, and on his way there he put his boat together and explored the Ingei or Kagera lakes.

The first news dates from Lumeresi, April 24, 1876, a little place between Ukerewe and Tanganyika, and the latest letters are from Ujiji, covering the period between April 24 and April 13, 1876.

CIRCUMNAVIGATING TANGANYIKA.

In fifty-one days of the months of June and July Stanley had made a complete circumnavigation of Lake Tanganyika, more thorough than either Speke, Livingstone and Cameron had done, not only sounding in every part, but for the first time explored the north-western shore.

By this effort Stanley solved another great African problem beyond all doubt—that the Tanganyika did not flow into the Albert Nyanza, and, consequently, did not run into the Nile. The third problem which Stanley sought to solve was the supposed outflow of the Tanganyika through the Lukaga, which, according to Cameron, flowed into the Luova and Lualaba. The result of Stanley's investigation is that the Lukaga has no regular feeder, but at the highest points by a periodical overflow receives a supply, perhaps, in the same manner that the Kutumadi and Liny'k cul. From this he held that he must look from the Kagera for the head waters of the Nile, and this he named the Alexandra Nile, to the Alexandra Lake for the real sources of the Nile. All these journeys, explorations and achievements Stanley has accomplished in the remarkably short space of a year and three-quarters, and in this brief time he had investigated three great lakes, completely navigating two of them, a distance of 5,600 miles, carrying with him all this time the great boat, notwithstanding the natives, of whom he was more independent than any other traveler had been previously.

FUTURE EXPLORATIONS.

When one thinks that Stanley has but penetrated about one-third of the African continent, and that this two-thirds of it have not merely to be investigated, but are almost entirely un-

known, and in which the greatest of African problems he concealed, it will be seen that this is the grandest exploring enterprise the world has seen.

From Ujiji Stanley desired to return to Nyangwe and make his way from the north or west, and this is just the direction which promises the greatest discoveries, for behind this lies the important question as to the Lualaba, Congo, Nile, Ogowe and other streams, while all south and east of Nyangwe are more or less known. When Cameron went south from this place he left everything unfinished, just where Livingstone left off.

HOW NEXT TO EXPLORE AFRICA.

The greatest problem in Africa, however, is, What will come of the discovery by Livingstone of these mighty lakes and rivers in Central Africa? By which river will they reach the ocean? The significant and unbroken success of Stanley's march brings this question home to us. How will complete success be attained? How can Africa be explored best? There are many ways to do it—as solitary explorers, as wandering bands, as missionaries with Bibles in their hands or armed parties. The solitary traveler is often compelled to wait for a year at a time before making a single step forward. He must remain near the coast, cannot select his route and is dependent, step by step, on the natives. What might Cameron have been able to do had he not been forced to go to Nyangwe from the South if he had carried out his plan of following the Lualaba westward? How little a solitary traveler can do when unprotected by men and resources is shown in the Loango expedition from Berlin. In those parts of Africa where there are no camels, horses or ox wagons to help the traveler there is no protection, and the porters or carriers can do precious little.

But travel in Africa, even with an escort, demands great sacrifice, and Stanley's journey has cost a great deal in treasure and human life to the members of the expedition and the natives accompanying it. It is always so in Africa. Nowhere else in the world is there so much loss of life from pestilence, the climate, fanaticism, war, murder and slavery have been perpetual institutions in Africa from all time. Those who desire to learn what sacrifice successful travel in Africa demands, such a journey as Stanley has made, must read the report of his wanderings.

Here Dr. Petermann recites the difficulties Stanley experienced from heat, fever and death during the first few weeks of his journey, as previously published in the Herald, reciting the details concerning the death of Edward Pocock, the loss of twenty-one of his men during his fight with the natives and the reduction of his followers to a mere handful on Tanganyika. If Mr. Stanley succeeds in reaching the coast east or north of Nyangwe he will have accomplished one of the grandest expeditions ever undertaken. In any case he has surpassed in the promptness of his movements anything that has been done before. The Arabs require from nine to twelve months to traverse the distance between Bagamoyo and Lake Ukerewe (Albert Nyanza); but Mr. Stanley accomplished it in 103 days. What the cost of the whole expedition is not stated; but from November, 1874, to the present time it is estimated at £2,000 sterling.

MOLLY MAGUIRE CONVICTED.

A FIFTH MAN FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF MORGAN POWELL—SIXTEEN CAPITAL CONVICTIONS IN THREE COUNTIES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

POTTSVILLE, Pa., April 13, 1877.

This morning the jury empaneled at Mauch Chunk, Carbon county, on Tuesday, to try the case of Patrick O'Donnell, indicted for complicity in the murder of Morgan Powell at Summit Hill, in 1868, brought in a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree.

O'Donnell is the fifth man convicted for this murder, the accused being convicted of murder in the first degree and one in the second.

THE OLD STORY RETOLD.

The trial which has just ended attracted but little attention, as all the material facts connected with the murder had been made public during the previous trial. The trial was not very earnestly fought, though the jury for the defense did try, with some appearance of persistency, to get a change of venue from Carbon county, on the ground that no man under the odium of having belonged to the Molly Maguires can get justice in that county. The motion for a change of venue was overruled. It was even charged that O'Donnell was present at the scene of the murder.

He belonged to the Tuscara Division of the Mollys, the division which furnished the men to murder Powell, and he took a prominent part in the meeting at which it was resolved to furnish men for the job. Of this fact no doubt was left on the minds of the jury, and, under the instructions of the Court, they returned the verdict. The prisoner could not deny that he was an unconcerned person in the court room when the verdict was announced, and did not interrupt his chat with a friend.

MURDER TO BE PUNISHED.

This conviction brings the number of dooped Molloy up to seven in the three counties of Schuylkill, Carbon and Columbia, and is important as indicating a determination to relentlessly hunt down and hang every Molloy who ever was concerned in murder.

BURNED TO DEATH.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 13, 1877.

Last evening two small children of John Price, below this city, were fatally burned in the absence of their parents. While their mother was gathering wood along the river one of the children poured coal oil on the fire in the stove. The flames communicated with their clothing, and one of them ran to the outside of the house in a sheet of fire. Death ensued during the night. The younger child was lowered a corner of the house with its dress ablaze, and its death is inevitable.

MURDERED FOR MONEY.

A MAIL CARRIER KILLED IN A LONELY MOUNTAIN ROAD—SKILLFUL DEVELOPMENT OF EVIDENCE LEADING TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE ASSASSIN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

KEYNES, West Va., April 13, 1877.

The facts of the murder of David C. Hiser, the young mail carrier, whose bullet-proof body and rifle mail sacks were found on the bank of the South Branch River a few days ago, make a tragedy, the narrative of which reads like a leaf from the romantic legends of our earlier literature. The scene is a wild ravine in the midst of towering mountains. The object is plunder, the victim a mail agent, galloping along with his pouches; and the murderer an assassin who intercepts his victim from a mountain pathway. The circumstantial evidence, too, which tends to fasten the crime on the suspected man, is highly dramatic. Although the crime occurred about a week ago it is still the subject of the most intense excitement throughout the entire country around Petersburg and Moorfield. The rocky old jail of Grant county, at Petersburg, in which the suspected murderer, Douglas, is confined, is continually surrounded by a crowd of curious people, while thousands of persons, men, women and children, impelled by the morbidly exciting reminiscence of the murder, have visited the scene of the struggle between the carrier and his assassin.

THE VALUE OF DEATH.

It is a spot well suited for the terrible deed—the mouth of opening of a dark, lonely gulch on the bank of the South Branch River. The one side is a towering cliff of rocks. In the shadow of the cliff runs a road, the bottom of the valley, and this proves the valley of the shadow of death. The road is a narrow one, and two government detectives who have been working up the case have finished their work as far as it can now be completed. One of them, Colonel Henderson, passed through here this morning on his way to Washington. The other, Mr. Tidball, went to Wheeling to confer with the United States District Attorney, and he is expected to return here in a few days. The road is a narrow one, and two government detectives who have been working up the case have finished their work as far as it can now be completed. One of them, Colonel Henderson, passed through here this morning on his way to Washington. The other, Mr. Tidball, went to Wheeling to confer with the United States District Attorney, and he is expected to return here in a few days.

CONVICTING CIRCUMSTANCES.

In the first place Douglas was known to have seen the carrier on the morning of the murder in possession of a one hundred dollar bill. Soon after the murder Henderson passed through here this morning on his way to Washington. The other, Mr. Tidball, went to Wheeling to confer with the United States District Attorney, and he is expected to return here in a few days. The road is a narrow one, and two government detectives who have been working up the case have finished their work as far as it can now be completed. One of them, Colonel Henderson, passed through here this morning on his way to Washington. The other, Mr. Tidball, went to Wheeling to confer with the United States District Attorney, and he is expected to return here in a few days.

AN UNCONVICTED WITNESS.

A laborer at work on the crest of the cliff, high above the valley, seems to have witnessed a part of the death struggle. His attention was attracted by a "sawyer" or stump, the guich by a pistol shot, followed almost instantly by two other reports of firearms. He became frightened and ran away to raise the alarm. He did raise an alarm, but when the spot was visited by a party of men the deed was done and the murderer gone.

THE BODY OF THE YOUNG MAN WAS FOUND IN THE RIVER, a short distance from the scene of the tragedy. The mail pouch with which he died Moorfield was also found in the river, near by, hanging on a "sawyer" or stump. It had been rifled, and its contents burned a few yards away from the fatal spot, in a small thicket of undergrowth. The murderer secured only about \$20 in money from two registered letters in the pouch and a small sum from the clothes of his victim. It transpired, however, from the examination of the body, that the \$100 bill was seen by Douglas as he lay before he left for Keyser. The impression here is that had Douglas been aware of this he would not have run the risk of killing the carrier for the booty.

THE PRISONER.

The prisoner is to be tried in the Grant Circuit Court. The United States District Attorney, General Nathan Gott, Jr., has telegraphed from Baltimore, that he will assist the grant county prosecutor in conducting the case against Douglas, as the murdered man was in the government service at the time of his death. Many persons fear, however, that the case will never come to trial in court, but that the people will take the administration of justice into their own hands and hang the prisoner before the grand jury was that Douglas was sentenced to be hanged at Clearwater to-day for the murder of John W. McMillan.

CHARGE OF MURDER DISMISSED.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 13, 1877.

The grand jury in the United States Court this morning dismissed the case of George Collins, a seaman, charged with the murder of Marshall Fessenden, first mate of the bark Northwest, while on a voyage from Baltimore to New York. Collins arrived in Baltimore last Saturday, being sent home from Rio de Janeiro on the bark Elvira by the United States Consul. From the time of his arrival at Rio Janeiro till he sailed on the Elvira Collins was imprisoned at Rio. During his imprisonment fully a dozen vessels sailed from that port for Baltimore. The long detention of Collins by the Consul has worked severe hardship in the imprisonment of the seaman for several months. The evidence before the grand jury was that Collins was struck first by the mate and acted in self-defense.

MURDERER RESPITED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

ATLANTA, Ga., April 13, 1877.

Governor Colquitt has granted a stay of execution for three weeks in the case of William Neeks, who was sentenced to be hanged at Clearwater to-day for the murder of John W. McMillan.

BISHOP LEE'S CONFESSION.

VERACITY AND CREDIBILITY OF ED GILMAN STRONGLY INDORSED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

SAN FRANCISCO, April 13, 1877.

A telegram from Eureka, Nev., published here this morning to the damage of Ed Gilman in the Howard case is a batch of falsehoods. A gentleman who has known him thoroughly for ten years tells me that he has always been regarded as a practical mining man, industrious and sober. It is a well known fact that he had the fullest liberty of the Salt Lake Peninsula and was a keeper while Lee was confined there.

GILMAN ON THE WAY TO WASHINGTON.

A special to the Chronicle from Salt Lake says: "Ed Gilman, who recently figured in connection with the Lee confession, left this city for Washington, in the interest of the Mormons, who advanced him the money necessary to defray the expenses of the trip. He is operating in conjunction with one Parsons, an old employee in the Salt Lake Post Office. District Attorney Howard admits to friends that he was picked up by him and employed as a detective to work up small criminal business in this judicial district."

EXECUTION POSTPONED.

A RESpite OF THREE WEEKS FOR CHIN MOCK.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

SAN FRANCISCO, April 13, 1877.

Governor Irwin has to-day postponed the execution of Chin Mock. Sixty-one days ago he was convicted of the murder of a woman, and he was sentenced to imprisonment for life. He is a thorough disciple of Confucius and was ready to meet all demands of the law, but wanted to pray for a reprieve. He is now in the State Prison, and he is expected to return here in a few days. The road is a narrow one, and two government detectives who have been working up the case have finished their work as far as it can now be completed. One of them, Colonel Henderson, passed through here this morning on his way to Washington. The other, Mr. Tidball, went to Wheeling to confer with the United States District Attorney, and he is expected to return here in a few days.

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS.

IMPROVED CONDITION OF THE GEORGIA STATESMAN'S HEALTH—HIS VIEWS ON THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 13, 1877.

The health of the Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, continues to improve. He speaks hopefully of the future of the country and thinks the President will carry out his policy of peace and good will to the South. He considers that the solution of the South Carolina troubles, which has resulted in the pacification of that State and the restoration of home rule and good government will lead to similar results in Louisiana by the recognition of the Nicholls government. The policy of the President will restore peace to all sections of the country. The position of Fleet Paymaster in place of Mr. Foster will be temporarily filled by Passed Assistant Paymaster J. Porter Loomis, of the Vandalia, the senior Paymaster in the squadron, but orders have been issued to Paymaster James E. Tolson, now at the Cape Fear, to succeed Mr. Loomis, and to Mr. Tolson, of the European Fleet, for duty as Fleet Paymaster to succeed Mr. Foster, and he will sail for Constantinople on the 22nd inst., to join the flagship Trenton at that place.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

PROMOTION FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF PAYMASTER FOSTER—ASSIGNMENT OF PAYMASTERS—ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, April 13, 1877.

The death of Pay Inspector Edward Foster, of the European Fleet, promotes Paymaster Frank C. Crosby, now on duty at the Washington Navy Yard, to the grade of Pay Inspector. The position of Fleet Paymaster in place of Mr. Foster will be temporarily filled by Passed Assistant Paymaster J. Porter Loomis, of the Vandalia, the senior Paymaster in the squadron, but orders have been issued to Paymaster James E. Tolson, now at the Cape Fear, to succeed Mr. Loomis, and to Mr. Tolson, of the European Fleet, for duty as Fleet Paymaster to succeed Mr. Foster, and he will sail for Constantinople on the 22nd inst., to join the flagship Trenton at that place.

A DESIRABLE POSITION.

The position of Fleet Paymaster on the European station is one of the choice positions in the navy, and several telegrams were received at the Navy Department to-day from prominent members of the pay corps asking to be assigned to that station. In fact, there is not an officer of the corps who would gladly be ordered to the station. Pay Inspector Foster was regarded as an officer of much ability, but having suffered with a pulmonary disease, he was assigned to the European station with the hope that it would be beneficial to his health.

PROMOTION.

Captain George M. Hanson, United States Navy, having passed a satisfactory examination yesterday, has been promoted to the grade of Commodore, to succeed Commodore F. F. Patterson, recently promoted to the grade of Rear Admiral.

REDUCTION OF INTEREST.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HARTFORD, Conn., April 13, 1877.

At the last session of the Connecticut Legislature the legal rate of interest was reduced to six per cent, and the interest on loans by savings banks to the same figure. To-day the representatives of forty-seven of the savings banks of the State held a meeting in this city, and it was voted that after the 20th inst. the rate of interest to be charged by the banks on all loans shall be six per cent, payable semi-annually. One effect of this will probably be to reduce the rate on deposits in the savings banks to five per cent, and such reduction has been already made by many of the banks, to apply to all moneys held by them since the 1st of January.

LOUISIANA.

THE COMMISSIONER'S PLAN BEFORE PACKARD AND THE NICHOLLS LEGISLATURE—THE REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR'S OPPOSITION—A DESPATCH FROM THE PRESIDENT—APPROVING THE PLAN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

NEW ORLEANS, April 13, 1877.

Messrs. McMillan, Hay and two other prominent republicans, were invited to meet the Commissioners this afternoon for consultation in regard to Packard's possible acceptance of the proposed plan of adjustment. The discussion was at great length, and resulted in their expressing the opinion that Mr. Packard's course was not one of such an arrangement, since it involved an abandonment of his case. This was only a preliminary step, however, and will not affect ultimate action, as the influence of the commission, if exerted in that direction, will be sufficient to carry out the plan, despite Mr. Packard's opposition. It is with great and increasing difficulty that his Legislature is still held together.

CAUTION OF THE NICHOLLS LEGISLATURE.

To-night the Nicholls Legislature meets in caucus to consider the situation with regard to the projected terms of settlement. Its action developed an almost unanimous sentiment in favor of accepting the proposed plan whenever it is officially submitted.

SUPPORTING PACKARD.

General Harlan, in conversation, appears to be suffering somewhat in his advocacy of Packard, and the latter still maintains his defiant attitude, freely stating his determination to defeat his government, even if the troops are withdrawn. His attitude has been greatly abated and state securities have advanced. About six P. M. the commission received the long expected despatch from the President and General Aguirre was sent for to transcribe it.

THE PRESIDENT APPROVES.

At half-past ten o'clock the session of the commission adjourned. It has since transpired that the despatches received from the President fully indorse the plan proposed, and it is to be forthwith carried into effect. The Nicholls Legislature have already given their assent, and if Packard should still kick in the traces the withdrawal of the troops, which is one of the conditions, will speedily force him into line. The probabilities are, however, that he will step out quietly after having vindicated himself in a protest, if a Chamberlain.

It is understood that neither the politics nor personnel of the United States Senators to be elected are made conditions of the settlement.

FALSE REPORTS CONCERNING THE CIPHER MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT—A HAPPY TERMINATION OF THE MIDDLE ANTICIPATED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

WASHINGTON, April 13, 1877.

The cipher message to the President from the Commissioners in Louisiana will be given to the public within a day or two, when its contents will prove to be widely different from the purport ascribed to it by those who are unwilling to possess their souls in patience and await the President's pleasure. The versions of the report variously given by the newspaper correspondents in New Orleans and Washington are far away from the truth. It is sufficient only to refer to the President's original letter of instruction to see that the statement that the Commissioners have based upon the relative titles of the two claimants for the Governorship of Louisiana is untrue. Whether Packard or Nicholls is the sure or eventful matter is something which they have no authority to look into.

SENATOR GORDON'S VIEW.

Senator Gordon, who is devoting himself to the Louisiana matter with the zeal he exercised in assisting to settle the difficulty in South Carolina, says he is confident of a happy termination of the present trouble in the former State. The problem will be solved without violence and to the satisfaction of all who are not partisans.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS.

Further instructions in answer to doubts as to inquiries in the cipher message to the President are to be given to the Louisiana commissioners. Their terms of support of the cipher, can only be guessed at; but they are supposed to contain an ultimatum, the acceptance or rejection of which will determine the future of the Louisiana difficulty. Either the Commissioners will be back in Washington within a week or a basis of settlement will be found within that time.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

SENATOR PATTERSON DISPLEASED WITH CHAMBERLAIN'S WITHDRAWAL—WILLING TO GIVE HAYES' POLICY A FAIR TRIAL.

WASHINGTON, April 13, 1877.

To-morrow's Republican will contain a lengthy report on an interview with Senator Patterson, in which the disavowal makes that has been reported, as having been uttered by him. Senator Patterson expressed himself as displeased with the abandonment of the contest by Chamberlain upon the withdrawal of the troops. He says the troops were in the State House to preserve the peace, and not to support Chamberlain's title to the office, and that the removal of the troops from the place were no longer needed. Hampton's promise also covered protection to Chamberlain in a contest with the administration. He says that the places his republican friends in a false position.

HE WILL SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT.